their number must be increasing from year to year. The Government had themselves recognised, in the Adiministration Report for 1089, that the supply of buildings was quite unequal to the demand. In the present condition of the finances, it would not be practicable for the Government to supply the demand in the near future and find the means of admitting *all* the children that came to their doors for instruction. It was therefore imperative that liberal inducements should be held out to Managers of Private Schools to start many more Elementary Schools in all parts of the country.

He next pointed out the need for bettering the position of Headmasters of Higher Grade Elementary Schools. They were now given uniformly a pay of Rs. 20 plus an allowance of Rs. 10, irrespective of the importance of the schools, the qualifications of the headmasters, their service or merit. He suggested that the allowance should be abolished and the headmasters put into two grades on fixed pay.

The next point touched upon by him was the absence of any rules for regulating the selection of Elementary School Teachers for training. The selection at present depended on the whims and caprices of the Inspectors.

Dewan.—Dr. Bishop tells me that the matter is engaging his attention. What principles would you suggest?

The Member said in reply that his object was only to point out the evils of the present system and that he would leave it to the Government to formulate such rules as would tend to limit the discretion of the Inspectors.

Referring to the suggestion of the other Members that the number of Inspectors of Schools should be reduced to one, he said that he could not bring himself to agree in that view. There *was* enough work for all the Inspectors and all that was necessary was for the superior officers to get proper work out of them. He was also against the transfer of the H. G. E. Schools to the control of the Assistant Inspectors.

Lastly, the Member said that the method of calculations prescribed in the Code for fixing the Government grants to private schools was unduly hard. As in the case of the Departmental Schools, the Managers had also to provide buildings and attend to their annual maintenance. It was therefore necessary that a certain amount should be set off as interest on the capital outlay and that a moiety of the balance should be fixed as the Government grant. In conclusion, he requested that the aided schools should be treated in that as well as other matters with much greater sympathy and consideration.

Dewan's reply.—The Member's suggestion for increasing the number of Aided Elementary Schools will be referred to the Director for remarks. His other representations are noted.

117. Certain difficulties experienced by the public in the present educational system.

Mr. C. P. Kochukunju Pillai (Member, Kottarakara taluk) brought to notice the following difficulties in the present educational system and suggested the remedies for the same :—

(1) The number of elementary schools was quite insufficient to admit all the children that sought admission. It would not be possible for the people to put up many more schools of their own. In his own taluk, about 83 private schools had already been started by the people. It was therefore time that the Government should find some means of remedying the growing evil. He suggested that any savings in sanctioned P. W. Estimates should be utilised for putting up more buildings for Elementary Schools.

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(2) There was no percentage of marks fixed for regulating the promotions of boys from class to class. The principle fixed for passing the boys in the School Final Class had also varied hitherto from year to year. He suggested the desirability of reviving the system of final examinations and promoting the boys who secured a certain percentage of marks.

(3) Under the present scholarship system, it was not the poor students that got the relief. The old system of whole or partial remission of class fees should be revived.

(4) The working of the Text-book Committee had already received the attention of the Government. It was necessary to clearly lay down the principles which should regulate the selection of text-books and care should also be taken to see that moderate prices were fixed for approved text-books. With a view to curf the growing tendency of earning a fortune by writing text-books and also to bring down the prices of such books to the lowest amount possible, he suggested that it should be made a rule that the authors of books should sell the copyright of their works to the Government for a valuation to be fixed in each case.

(5) Alternate text-books should not be prescribed, but there should only be one text-book on a subject for each class. Under the present system, much difficulty was felt when the boys were transferred from one school to another.

(6) The training of Elementary School teachers now lasted for two years. The Member said that, as regards the theory of teaching, it was enough to test their fitness by examining them in the "Adhyapanadarsam" which was the only text-book taught in the Training Schools. As for practical training, the Headmasters of Elementary Schools could be asked to give the untrained teachers under them the training they required. In any case, the number of Elementary Training Schools could be reduced from 10 to 3.

(7) The revived Higher Vernacular Examination was proposed to be confined to teachers of recognised schools. The restriction should be removed.

(8) The office of Range Inspectors might be abolished as those officers practically did no inspection work at present, and the Assistant Inspectors directly controlled by the Director. The powers of appointments and punishments vested in the Inspectors might well be exercised by the Director himself.

(9) The Headmasters of incomplete Lower Grade Elementary Schools should be given an allowance similar to what was given to the Headmasters of L. G. S. Schools, whether complete or incomplete.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.

118. Certain suggestions in regard to education.

The Very Revd. Iype Thoma Kathanar (Member, Nominated) first suggested the desirability of affording greater facilities for the development of the Sanskrit language. He also said that, while there were so many agencies for supervising the conduct of the boys, it was equally necessary to see that the teachers appointed to schools were men of good moral character and that the boys contracted no evil habits from their masters. The inspecting authorities should be asked to bestow some attention to it during their inspections.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.

THE PROVIDENT FUND COMMITTEE'S REPORT.

Dewan.—Gentlemen, in accordance with the announcement in my Address, I propose to take the opinions of the Members of the Assembly, whose names will be read out, on the views expressed in the Report of the Provident Fund Committee.

Mr. K. A. Krishna Aiyengar, B. A., B. L. (Member, T. I. C., Alleppey) said that, in his view, the management of the Fund should be solely in the hands of the

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